

GOLD BILL.

Mr. Woodbridge—I am quite aware, Mr. Speaker, that the House is already fatigued with the discussion of this bill. But inasmuch as it is a bill of great consequence to the country, one upon which every member who thinks has an opinion of his own, it may not be entirely out of place for me to urge the views which I entertain, though making but little claim to financial experience. I shall only present those views which commend themselves to my common sense, unbiassed by any pet financial theories, and unbiassed by any sympathies with the speculators who have fallen upon our country's distresses.

The Committee of Ways and Means, to whose special charge is committed the financial interests of the country, after mature and careful deliberation, originally as it is now sent back to us from the Senate, and it has, as now stands, the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. And, sir, when I find that the proposition submitted by that committee coincides with my own judgment, however unskilled it may be, I shall of course give it my hearty support.

The arguments against this bill were fairly and perhaps fully embodied in the remarks submitted by the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Boutwell] on yesterday. I always listen to that gentleman with pleasure. His earnestness, his manly integrity, his clearness of perception, his force of illustration, always give additional power to the views he presents. But, sir, it did not seem to me yesterday that the argument he used was rather specious than sound.

The first proposition that the gentleman laid down was that the bill should not pass because it would be dangerous to the Government to withdraw and dispose of any portion of the surplus gold from the Treasury. Sir, we have at the head of the Treasury a man who has had imposed upon him by the nation a herculean task, and who has borne the burden with great credit to himself and with beneficial results to the country. He is in favor of this scheme, and believes it to be perfectly safe to withdraw certain portions of the surplus gold from the Treasury and dispose of it in the market. I accept the judgment of the Secretary upon this point.

It is further insisted that the Government is under a moral obligation not to part with this gold, because the law of 1862 says that the interest upon the public debt shall be paid or provided for yearly in gold. Such is not the law. It is not the intent of the act of 1862 that the gold shall be reserved to buy one per cent. of the entire debt of the United States at par; but that a sufficient amount of money received for duties shall be retained to liquidate that debt to the amount of one per cent. a year. In other words, it is establishing a sinking fund whereby a certain portion of the debt shall be paid or retired. All laws must have a practical construction. When a law is passed prescribing a duty it carries with it the power to discharge that duty, and that power is to be exercised in a rational way. In what condition would we be if we retained the surplus gold in the Treasury, as the gentleman contended we ought? What sort of a sinking fund would we create? We would be the laughing-stock of financiers; for we should be constantly accumulating gold in the Treasury which the Government does not need and the business of the country demands, and thus by withdrawing the supply which the demand calls for we are inducing speculation, adding to the price of gold in the market, and greatly increasing the cost of every article which we purchase for our Army and Navy. Now, sir, how can the law providing for the retiring of one cent. of the public debt annually be practically carried out? To give the practical operation to the law the Secretary of the Treasury must go into the market and purchase greenbacks with gold. That is called reputation. It is not reputation nor in anywise akin to it. It is what honorable men have done in their business. It is what Governments have done and what Governments have always a right to do. By purchasing greenbacks with gold and with them buying and canceling the bonds of the Government we would carry out this law in its full spirit.

My friend from Massachusetts [Mr. Boutwell] introduced an amendment which at first met with my approbation, but when I came to reflect upon it, it struck me that it was not practicable. The substance of the gentleman's amendment is that the Secretary of the Treasury shall be authorized to anticipate the interest and pay the under-due coupons with or without rebate of interest.

Now, sir, would the men holding coupons present them at the Treasury and have them paid in gold presently? Men are governed by their interests. Would it be for their interest to do so? Would it be a sagacious business transaction? Sir, I think not, and why? Simply because they would see that there is a daily accumulation of gold in the Treasury which the Government cannot use, and they would know that where the accumulation is hoarded, and the supply consequently just so much diminished, gold would go up, and hence when the interest became due, say the 1st of May, they would get an increased price for the gold, which would more than compensate for the delay in the payment. Such, it strikes me, would be the practical operation of the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Again, I am informed that the interest on money in the market is only five per cent. Such being the case, it is an additional reason why men will hold on to these coupons and take

their chances, rather than receive the gold on them now.

Another argument, I understand, is that we would, by selling this gold, increase the price of gold and stimulate speculation in the market. The gentleman says that uncertainty is the great element of speculation. When you come to that kind of speculation that has the character of gambling you may legitimately say that it is the uncertainty which stimulates the speculation. Will this bill increase the element of uncertainty? I contend, sir, that it would diminish it; and that by the aggregation of gold hoarded up you stimulate speculation in the article, and make the price of our currency dependent upon the gold monopolists in New York. I will illustrate it in my humble way. Suppose there are one hundred thousand bales of cotton in New York—not enough to supply the demand—and hence speculation commences; and those gentlemen who gamble in Wall street, finding but a limited supply in the market, unequal to the demand, take hold of the article and speculate in it. What is the result? It goes up, and far beyond its real value. Now suppose some man, while the speculation is raging, imports fifty thousand bales, and holds it in the market. According to the gentleman's theory the holding of this large amount would enhance the price and increase the speculation in the cotton already thrown upon the market for sale.

Would that be the effect? No, sir. Because, cotton being above its real value, the market would be controlled by the holder of this fifty thousand bales, because the supply and demand are just so much nearer equalized.—It is known to the speculator that he can throw it upon the market at any time, and the market becomes steady under the influence, whether the cotton is sold or not. If it is present, ready to be thrown upon the market, the unrest and disquietude disappear, and the market gradually settles to a state of quietude. When the man who has fifty thousand bales puts such a portion of it upon the market as the demand calls for, what is the effect? Cotton falls, and comes down approximately to its real value. The same effect would be produced on the gambling in gold by holding, with the power of sale, the surplus gold in our Treasury. Suppose that not a pound of that cotton is sold, but is merely held in the market; as I said before, it checks speculation.

Now suppose the owner of the fifty thousand bales should be enjoined from selling; what would be the effect? Speculators would take advantage of the fact, gambling would begin again, and the market would go up. Apply the same principle to gold. We will say the demand is not equal to the supply, and that this, in connection with other things, such as condition of the country and the expansion of our currency, has brought the price of gold up, so to speak.—Now, the speculator knows there is an accumulating fund in the Treasury, which cannot be used; and the more you throw in to the Treasury, the more disquiet and reckless the speculator becomes. Hence they go "skating" in gold because they see this large amount is locked up in the Treasury and cannot be used. Now give the Secretary power to bring this upon the market, and what will be the effect? The same as in the case of cotton; and down will go the price of gold. Speculators do not know that it is to be thrown upon the market; but as there is a power to put it on the market, speculation in gold will be regarded as unsafe, and it is measurably checked.

Again, the gentleman says, admitting that this may exercise some influence on the price of gold, yet that influence will be temporary, and not permanent, and that we must legislate for a permanent depreciation of the price of gold. Now, I never saw a force put in motion which would not expend itself. That is in accordance with the laws of motion. If the Secretary of the Treasury should see fit to put \$1,000,000, or more, of gold on the market, I do not pretend it would have a permanent effect on the speculation in gold, but it would have a temporary one, and the Secretary having the power from time to time to produce this temporary effect upon speculation, it becomes finally a permanent effect. One shower of rain does not have a permanent effect upon the parched earth; but shower after shower brings forth the bountiful harvest.

Now, sir, I must take issue with the gentleman from Massachusetts upon another point made by him, and I do so with great deference, as the gentleman is evidently a business man and a sagacious merchant. He says that this bill will not materially influence the price of gold because the price of gold is governed by the price of exchange. Now, sir, as a man of common sense, and not as a man of financial experience, I do not see it in that light. The price of gold to a certain extent regulates the price of exchange. The price of exchange is greater than the price of gold to an amount about equal to the costs of insurance and transportation. If the gentleman's theory is correct, why is it that when we passed his amendment gold went up, and, as I understand, over 150, but when the amendment of the Senate was adopted, the result was that gold came down to 150?—The immediate effect of the passage of the bill by the Senate was to bring gold down nine or ten cents.

Now, sir, I believe, if we pass this bill, under the operation of which gambling in gold will, in my judgment, be checked, and if the Committee of Ways and Means will speedily present a bill for revenue whereby the wealth and property of the country will be taxed to pay the expenses of this Government hereafter, so that

there will be hereafter no undue inflation of the currency, gold will continue to decline. When speculation sees that our currency is not to be inflated; when they see that the property of the country is to be taxed to carry on this war; that we are getting scarcer and nearer to a sound, reliable basis, gold goes down still more. Then let my friend from Illinois [Mr. Washburne], who has an eye on General Grant, the man who occupies a position as honorable and as fearfully responsible as any man on earth, send for him to march the magnificent army of the Potomac—as gallant an army as the sun ever shone on—against General Lee. Let us have a victory there; and then the combination of these three things—the passage of this bill, the taxing the property of the country, and the driving to the wall the rebel army—will run gold down to thirty per cent. and exchange to forty, and that is as low as gold ought to be in time of war.

I know it is said to be dangerous to entrust these great powers to the hands of any one man. I am not one of those, sir, who believe that all virtue dwelt with our fathers, and that there is no more purity in human nature. These are fearful times. Powers must be granted; responsibility must be assumed; and every officer of the Government, high or low, must be held responsible to the sovereigns of the nation, the people themselves. Refrain from giving power to the heads of Departments, and you weaken the Government itself. The Secretary of the Treasury has probably the weakness of other men. He has at least shown himself to be a man of financial powers. He has at least shown himself, so far, a man of great honesty and integrity of purpose. I would give him all the powers necessary for him to roll on the wheels of Government until this cursed rebellion is crushed forever; and I do not believe that he will abuse that power. For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I have expressed, not scientifically elaborated—for, as I said before, I am no financier—I shall vote for the passage of this bill.

THE MANCHESTER JOURNAL.
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1864.

TO OUR PATRONS.—The publisher wishes to call the attention of his subscribers to the fact that several hundred dollars long since due upon the subscription list, still remain unpaid. After the 1st of April all who have not paid up will be charged One Dollar and Fifty Cents. While nearly every other paper in the State has increased the price of subscription to meet the increased cost of paper and other material, the publisher only asks that he be paid promptly in advance.

UNION NATIONAL CONVENTION.
The undersigned, who, by original appointment, or subsequent designation to fill vacancies, constitute the Executive Committee created by the National Convention held at Chicago on the 10th day of May, 1860, do hereby call upon all qualified voters who desire the unconditional maintenance of the Union, the supremacy of the Constitution, and the complete extinguishing of the existing rebellion, with the cause thereof, by vigorous war, and all apt and efficient means, to send delegates to a convention to assemble at BALTIMORE on TUESDAY, MAY SEVENTEEN DAY, 1864, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of presenting candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States. Each State having a representation in Congress will be entitled to as many delegates as shall be equal to twice the number of electors to which such State is entitled in the Electoral College of the United States.

EDW. D. MORGAN, New York, Chairman.
CHAS. L. GILMAN, Maine.
L. BRAINERD, Vermont.
J. Z. GOODRICH, Massachusetts.
THO. G. TURNER, Rhode-Island.
GIDEON WELLS, Connecticut.
And 16 others.

A PROCLAMATION.
As a fitting occasion for the people of this State unitedly to humble themselves before Almighty God, and in observance of a custom which finds its sanction and approval in the best promptings of the Christian's heart, I do hereby appoint THURSDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL, next, to be observed as a day of PUBLIC FASTING, HUMILIATION AND PRAYER.

And I do earnestly invite the people of the State, on that day, to lay aside all secular employment, and to assemble in their accustomed places of worship, to offer to their God rulers of nations their humble prayer, confessing before Him their sins as individuals, and as communities, and in penitential sorrow, seeking forgiveness through a crucified and exalted Saviour.

Let us devoutly seek His blessing upon us as a Commonwealth, that He will give us the genial influences of the sun and rain, that He will bestow upon the labors of the husbandman, and upon all our individual pursuits, an abundant reward; and above all, that He will bless by the presence of His Holy spirit, quickening our faith, strengthening our hopes, and imparting to us a truer and more just conception of His holiness, and of our dependence upon Him.

Let us deplore before Him our sins as a nation, and beseech Him to grant us His favor, that He will give wisdom to all in authority, that He will grant success to our army and navy, and crown the year with an enduring peace.

Let us seek His blessings upon the brave soldiers that whether in camp, or on the field of battle, in the hospital, or languishing in captivity, He will be near them to protect and bless, to comfort and sustain them, and having accomplished their sacred mission, return them in safety to their families and their homes.

Thus may our Faith be ever "such as the Lord hath chosen, that our light may break forth as the morning, that our health may spring forth as the flower, and that our righteousness may go before us, and that the glory of the Lord may be our reward."

Given under my hand and the Seal of the State, in Executive Chamber at St. Albans, this twenty-second day of March, in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States, the Eighty-eighth.

J. GREGORY SMITH.
By His Excellency the Governor,
SAMUEL WILLIAMS,
Sec. of Civil and Military Affairs.

The standard of the 12th United States Infantry bears the proud inscription, "First at Vicksburg." The Board of Officers appointed to distribute honors had that this regiment in a bold and sustained manner its colors on the parapet with a loss of 48-2-10 per cent., including its gallant commander, Washington, who died on the parapet. The Board consider the conduct of this Regiment unequalled in the army.

MILITARY EVENTS OF THE LAST TWO MONTHS.
Two months ago it was the general expectation of the people that by this time great and decisive victories would have been obtained by our Union armies. The successes of last summer had materially reduced the limits of the Confederacy, and the brilliant operations of the fall months opened to our advance that section of the country in which the rebels, driven in from the borders of the section they had at first attempted to defend, had concentrated their armies and everything on which the success of those armies depended. When the winter closed upon a military situation so advantageous, it did not seem presumptuous to hope that the spring months would open with a campaign, "short, quick, and decisive," which would reduce the efforts of the rebels from the movements of great armies to the feeble and broken efforts of a defeated and despairing foe. After the rapid and successful movements of the last year, which to a people sick with hope deferred, seemed to display something of Napoleonic genius and energy in their conception and execution, with the great Mississippi dividing them in twain and the key of Georgia in our possession, — it was perhaps natural for us to undertake somewhat the advantages which the new position gave the rebels in the concentration of their forces and our removal from the rivers which had hitherto served as the bases of our supplies. Whatever may have been the correctness of our views with regard to what ought to have been the result of the spring campaign, it is certain that our hope of an early resumption of the onward march of the preceding season has been disappointed.

Every movement of our armies this spring thus far, has resulted either in actual defeat, or a lack of decisive results, which, to a people hoping for better things, seemed little better. Gen. Seymour's expedition in Florida met with a grand disaster. Kilpatrick's attempt to release the Union prisoners in Richmond fared little better. The attack on Mobile, from which so much was expected, has scarcely been heard from. Smith's cavalry expedition failed unaccountably, and, as a consequence, Sherman's army which had marched grandly into Alabama, marched grandly back again. Thomas' grand advance in Georgia dwindled suddenly into a grand reconnaissance. Meanwhile the siege of Charleston drags along its tedious length, and the army of the Potomac still watches and waits. In all these things the people have been disappointed, and yet, in spite of it all, the nation is hopeful and confident.

The cause of this hopeful condition of the public feeling is found in a single measure and relates to one man. Grant has been made a Lieutenant General and put in command of the armies of the United States, and the people, notwithstanding all their disappointments, are hopeful to-day. Blundering generals may lead their armies to destruction, expeditions may fail and nobody be to blame, armies equal to those with which Napoleon won Marengo and Austerlitz may waste months in splendid movements in which nobody is hurt, — but the people trust in Grant that he will correct all these things, and give us what we want — victory.

Nothing can be more gratifying to a military commander than the fact that his advancement is considered an event so auspicious as to counterbalance in the public mind the effects of a long list of disasters. Since his promotion Gen. Grant has, if anything, strengthened the confidence which the public placed in his character as a man and a general. He shows Washington and announces his headquarters in the field. From the fact that those headquarters are for the present with the army of the Potomac, we may infer that he intends to lead in person that army "on to Richmond." McDowell, McClellan, Pope, Burnside, and Hooker, have all tried it and failed. They had to contend with bureau dictation from Washington; he stands first in the army subordinate only to the President, and so high in the estimation of the people that even he dare not attempt to control him. A people that has five times seen its favorite army go forth gallantly towards the rebel capital and five times seen it come back with naught but honor, sends with him its prayers and hopes. If he is indeed the long looked for "conqueror man" who is to lead the army of the Potomac to victory and annihilate the enemies of the Union, a grateful nation will write his name with that of Washington.

We are indebted to Hon. F. E. Woodbridge for valuable public documents.

New York City has a church for every 1000 inhabitants and a grocery for every 100.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.
Brig. Gen. Pitcher, in a communication to the Rutland Herald, makes an estimate of the extent and deficiency of the town of the First Congressional District in relation to the recent call of the President for 200,000. The estimate, although not official, he thinks will be nearly correct, and will greatly aid the towns in arriving at a knowledge of their situation. It is not yet positively known whether there will be a draft in any District of a State whose aggregate quota is filled. To make the matter sure, towns having a deficiency should endeavor to fill them up while Government bounties are paid. By so doing they will fill up the Twentieth Regiment and by enabling that to take the field, save the honor of the State and relieve it from a great expense.

BENNINGTON COUNTY.

| Quota for 200,000. | Returned March 1st, 1864. | Deficiency March 1st, 1864. | Returned from March 1st to 15th. | Deficiency March 15th. |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Arlington, 25 | 2 | 23 | 1 | 22 |
| Barnesville, 11 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| Bennington, 11 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| Glantonville, 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Landgrove, 12 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| Manchester, 10 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Peru, 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pownall, 14 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Readsboro, 6 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Ripton, 4 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Sandgate, 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Scarlboro, 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shafter, 12 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Stamford, 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sunderland, 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Winhall, 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Woodford, 4 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

ITEMS.—The Rev. Mr. Batchelder of Pownall received \$150 at his recent donation. —The dwelling house in Weston occupied by Jarel L. Rollins was destroyed by fire on the 16th. —The ladies of South Shaftsbury realized \$218 from their Festival of the 23d. —Donations of towns in this county to the A. B. C. F. M. during the year 1863 were as follows: Manchester, \$100; Dornet, 94; Bennington, 14; Bennington, 24, 96; Pownall, 49; Peru, 36. —Among Dahlgren's picked men in the recent raid were one hundred from the Vermont cavalry, sixty-five of whom from Co. G., of this County, whose list of casualties is announced as follows: Missing, L. Snow, S. Simmonds, M. Madden, Lewis Knapp, Thos. G. Wood, John Delany, Geo. H. Dunn, Geo. H. Calkins, Nelson Dragoon, W. A. Gould, Thos. Barney, James Brandy, Wonlded and Missing; Edwin A. Porter, Wm. N. Dunn, Rollin D. Mallory. Wounded and Present: Chas. C. Dunn, supposed mortally. —The South Shaftsbury furnace has stopped for repairs and is to be wholly remodelled.

MARKING.—The following are the officers for the ensuing year of Red Mountain Lodge, No. 63, Arlington: J. W. Kelley, W. M.; C. H. Young, S. W.; W. P. Eaton, J. D.; R. T. Hurd, Treasurer; J. B. Lathrop, Secretary; Fernando West, S. D.; R. G. Tuttle, J. D.; Austin Bartlett, H. S. Rule, Stewards; J. M. Stoddard, Tyler. H. S. Hard, Chaplain.

John Haley of this town who enlisted in a New York Regiment at Saratoga and deserted from there, was arrested here last week by Officer Dean and has finally been sent to Braintree, where his case will doubtless be investigated.

On Sunday evening the 20th, Nelson G. Cone, of Sandgate, was found dead in his bunk in the mill which he had rented for the last ten or twelve years. He was about Saturday evening in his usual health, and was not missed till the evening of the next day. The mill was then broken into and he was found dead as described, and the body frozen. His remains were taken in charge by the officers of the town.

New Publications.
THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for April is published and is perhaps the best number of the volume thus far. The poetry is contributed by Whittier and Lowell. Fiction is represented by A. S. Diaz's "School-master's Story." "Fighting Facts for Fogies" by C. C. Hazenell, disproves, by giving the age and services of the principle generals of all periods, the truth of the statement made by some that the history of genius and heroism is the history of youth. "Among the Mormons" is a most interesting sketch of Mormon life and society. "The First Visit to Washington" seems to be a chapter from the early history of Secretary Chase. "Our Progressive Independence," by Oliver Wendell Holmes, should be read by every American. "Pictor Ignotus," an account of the life and character of Wm. Blake, the artist. "Roquet the Magnificent," a sketch of the downfall of the first minister of Louis the XIV, and another number of the "House and Home Papers" of Mrs. Stowe, complete the list.

HARPER'S MONTHLY for April contains: "Journey to the Source of the Nile"—with sixteen illustrations; "The Three Fishers"—one illustration; "Scenes in the War of 1812"—IX. "War with the Creek Indians"—five illustrations; "Syra"; "The Small House at Arlington"—illustration; "A Golden Wedding"; "The Blacksmith of Holey"—with two illustrations; "My escape from Richmond"; "The Avenger"; "How Spring comes to the Blind"; "The Fortunes of the Innocents"; "Escape from Fort Warren"; "Record Drawer," &c. In this number is commenced the unfinished novel of Thackeray, "Dennis Duval," which will always remain a fragment in consequence of the untimely death of its author. Dickens was requested by Thackeray's literary executors to finish the story, but he refused and expressed his disapproval of that course, and it is probable that the wishes of so good a friend of the deceased and so eminent an author will be respected. It will lose some of its interest from its unfinished state to those who read it merely as a story, but a peculiar interest will be felt in it by those who read it as the last work of a great author whom death snatched from his unfinished task.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE for April—Contents: Arthur; Speaking through Tears, by T. S. Arthur; Speaking Gently: The New Spectacles; Kings and Queens of England; Spirit Whispers: The Way Through, by Virginia E. Townsend; Little Georgia: A plea for Grandfather; At Aconecree: A Dilemma; The Early Spring Bird; Self-Love; Mothers Department &c.

State Intelligence.
Hon. G. W. Grandy was elected Mayor of Vergennes at the Annual Charter Election for the 22nd. It is well to have something to remind us, once in a while, that we have a city in Vermont.

Six of the officers of the 2nd Infantry of the Corps D'Afrique were appointed from the 8th Vermont.

The two Vermont companies of Sharpshooters were with Gen. Custer when he made his dash on Charlottesville, and are said to have behaved splendidly.

Several members of the 7th Vermont were taken prisoners by the rebels in Washington county, West Florida on the 10th of February, and are now safely housed in Apalachicola arsenal, Chattahoochee Ala.

Maj. Amasa Bartlett, 9th Vermont Volunteers, died on the 17th, at Newport Barracks. He was formerly Captain of Co. E, and was promoted on the death of Jarvis.

E. D. Redington, of St. Johnsbury, formerly 2d Lt. of Co. I, 12th Vt. Volunteers, has been appointed Paymaster in the army with the rank of Major.

James C. Houghlin, Jr., of Chelsea, who was assistant Clerk of the House last session, has been appointed Cashier of the Orange County Bank.

Among the volunteer toasts at the banquet of the Hibernian Society at Burlington, was the following:

THE GENERALS OF THE U. S. ARMY.—God Grant that our country may soon be at peace, our Banks return to specie payments; and while we still look at the rebels, and sometimes mow them down with Sickles, it is only returning the compliment for they once took us on the Lee side and sent us their best Beauregards at Bull Run; yet we will take the Meade of praise for Gettysburg, for the rebels confess they made a Lee the fastest time they ever made of their Longstreet back across the Potomac, not stopping to take a Hooker as they did at Chancellorsville. In the West we have a *Blunt* way of dealing with them, and they don't pay the Price of their treason, although when Forrest hemmed they get us, they brag a good deal, but we have only to say to them in future Lookout! On the Pacific coast our Irish Shields and a "Wright smart" Vermont General keeps sentinel, and if Cotton is king with rebels, why then is not Wool General with us?

Then here's to our Generals, beat them who can. They fight for the Union under Able, honest men. We each have our favorite, yet our glasses we'll drain.

To the one who conquers oftenest, and will conquer again.

MARKED ARTICLES.—Some of the marks which are fastened on the blankets, shirts, &c., sent to the Sanitary Commission for the soldiers, show the thought and feeling at home. Thus, on a home-spun blanket, worn, but washed as clean as snow, was pinned a bit of paper which said, "This blanket was carried by Mily Adrich (who is sixty-three years old) down hill and up hill, one and a half miles, to be given to some soldiers."

On a bed quilt was pinned a card, saying, "My son is in the army. Whoever is made warm by this quilt, which I have worked on for six days, let most all of six nights, let him remember his own mother's love."

On another blanket was this, "This blanket was used by a soldier in 1812; may it keep some soldier warm in this war against traitors."

On a pillow was written, "This pillow belonged to my little boy, who died resting on it; it is a precious treasure to me, but I give it for the soldiers."

On a pair of woollen socks was written, "These stockings were knit by a little girl five years old, and she is going to knit some more, for mother says it will help some poor soldier."

On a box of beautiful lint was this mark. "Made in a sick room, where the sunlight has not entered for nine years, but where God has entered, and where two sons have bid their mother good-bye, as they have gone out to the war."

On a bundle containing bandages was written, "This is a poor gift, but it is all I had; I have given my husband and my boy, and only wish I had more to give, but I haven't."

On some eye shades were marked, "Made by one who is blind. Oh, how I long to see the dear old flag that you are all fighting under."

Preparations for war are going on all over Europe. Italy has more than four hundred thousand men under arms, and this grand army demands and expects soon to march into Venice. On her side, Austria is preparing for the crash; the famous quadrilateral is being strengthened in every possible way; the line of the Mincio is strongly barricaded with men and guns from Mantua to Peschiera; guns of the largest calibre are being mounted in all the fortified places. But this time it is more likely that the grand drama will open at Venice in a sea fight.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. For Coughs, Colds, and Irritated Throats, are offered with the fullest confidence in their efficacy. They have been thoroughly tested, and maintain the good reputation they have justly acquired. As there are imitations, be sure to obtain the genuine.

A rebel deserter who came into our lines at Huntsville, Ala., said in answer to a question: "Do they conscript close, over the river? Hell, stranger, I should think they did! They take every man who hasn't been dead more than two days!" It is this correct the confederacy has at least a ghost of a chance left.

THE WAR.
CAIRO, March 26.—Reports were circulated here that the rebels, under Forester, attacked Paducah, Ky., fifty miles above here, yesterday, and burned part of the town, but, as telegraph communication is cut off, no authentic information could be obtained. The Joseph Pearce, which passed Paducah this morning, brings the following account of the affair:—Gen. Forrest, with an estimated force of 5,000 captured the place yesterday, and sacked and fired the city. Col. Hicks, commanding the post, occupied the fort below the city with 800 men.

The rebels made four assaults on the fort, but were repulsed each time.

Three of our gunboats opened fire on the city while it was occupied by the rebels, and much of it was burned, including the marine railway and the steamer Arizona, the wharf boat.

About 3,000 of the inhabitants of the city moved across the river on learning of the approach of the rebels.

When the Pearce passed at 7 o'clock this morning, the enemy had left, the people were returning to the city, and the fires were dying out.

Our loss is 12 killed and 40 wounded. From 150 to 300 rebels were killed, among them Gen. Thompson, 25 houses around the fort were destroyed by our troops, as they were used by the rebel sharpshooters as a screen.

The headquarters of the Government storehouses were burned by the enemy.

FT. DE RUSSY ON RED RIVER CAPTURED.—Gen. A. S. Smith landed his forces a few miles below Fort De Russy. The rebel Gen. Dick Taylor promptly marched against him with his force and attacked him in his rear. Gen. Smith instead of attempting to keep up communication with the river, proceeded by forced marches towards the Fort. When Taylor saw the trick, he started for the same destination, and for a time the race seemed doubtful, but finally the Yankees came in about three hours ahead. The 119th and 89th Indiana, and 24th Missouri regiments charged over deep ditches and a thick abatis in face of a galling fire and within 20 minutes after the order was given, the color sergeant of the 55th Ill. volunteers planted the American flag upon the enemy's works. The fruits of the victory were eleven guns four of them Parrots, 1 eleven inch, and several 32 pounds, and also 300 prisoners. This gives Gen. Smith a strong foothold in the country and will enable Admiral Porter to proceed to Alexandria with his gunboats without opposition.

MAXIMILIAN AND HIS SEVEN NOBLES.—It is positively asserted as a fact that a number of prominent rebel and secession sympathizers are preparing to accept titles of nobility from Maximilian I., of Mexico, and already one—ex-Senator Gwin—has already been created duke. And now, we suppose, we shall have immediately a long and brilliant array of nobles selected from the Mexican market for the cream of rebel society, and bearing all sorts of titles. Look out for his Royal Highness Jefferson Davis, Prince of Rebels, and heir to the realms of the late King Cotton; for ex-Senator James M. Mason as the Duke de Rinaldo, Count Palatine of Cape Cod, and Grand Master in keeping at Fort Warren, transferred to the Castle of Calomel and Xalapa, Mexico; for ex-Senator Slidell, Lord of the Charleston Convention, and Grand Facotum to the late High-cock-a-lorum of the White House; for Viscount Memminger, Grand Chancellor of the Exchequer of Plowdow, who, having no sovereigns of his own and none of his master, is well prepared to support the title of Grand Repudiator of Two Dynasties; for ex-Senator Robert Toombs, Marquis de Boomerang, commander of the Wine vats of the empire, and Master of the Roll Calls on Bunker Hill, &c., &c. The court of Maximilian I. will early rival that of his imperial Majesty Soloque, of Hayti, for magnificence and rags.—Herald

THE MAINE LAW IN VIRGINIA.—The Virginians used to ridicule Federalism as one of the monstrous products of northern fanaticism. Now the rebel legislature of that State has enacted a stringent prohibitory law by a vote of three to one. It provides for the closing up of every grog-shop on the 1st of May.

It appears that the law was passed because Gen. Lee requested it. His soldiers were demoralized by liquor, and he thinks the people generally had better dispense with other excitements while they have that of the war.

The Springfield Republican says that perhaps the presence of Neal Dow in the rebel capital had something to do with the passage of the law. But how could that be, when, he was tight in Libby.—Burlington Free Press.

George Augustus Sala, in his last letter, after quoting the Washington Chronicle's rhapsody about Miss Anna E. Dickinson, "a Corinne of Republican politics," "a passionate gesture," "thick tresses," "heated temples," "gush of irrepressible adoration," "thou shot-test electric fires," &c.—describes her as "The pretty girl in a red Garibaldi jacket, and her hair cut close, whom I saw at breakfast doing considerable execution with the buckwheat cakes and molasses."

Parson Brownlow, in his Knoxville Whig and Rebel Ventilator, says of the Tennessee aristocracy:—

"Through the mercy of God, the firmness of Mr. Lincoln and the madness of the Southern Confederacy, we are all about to find a common level, where we can at least boast that the Lord is the maker of us all. He has not hitherto been the maker of us all, but the times are changing! It will require lamps and gaslights in the daytime to find the aristocracy in this town."